GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3061
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2015
TRAINED PILOTS TO FLY UNDER FOGGY CONDITIONS
Sathyabama Smt. V.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are sufficient number of pilots in the country who are trained to fly under foggy conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to avoid cancellation/re-scheduling of flights due to fog?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION (Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) & (b) The details of the total number of CAT III B trained flight crew are as follows:
2012-13 2013-14 1544 1620

(c) In order to avoid cancellation/re-scheduling during low visibility, following decisions have been taken by DGCA for compliance of airlines:
(i) All airlines to ensure that aircrafts deployed to/from Delhi during low visibility conditions are CAT-III compliant and both the commander and co-pilot are also CAT-III trained.
(ii) Only CAT-III flight crew to operate the flights to/from Delhi in case weather predictions of CAT-III conditions are made by Indian Meteorological Department. Failing to do so, such operations of the defaulting airline will be stopped to/from Delhi during low visibility conditions.
(iii)DGCA has also issued Aeronautical Information Circular (AIC) 11 of 2009 on `Guidelines for aircraft operations during low visibility conditions at IGI Airport, Delhi`
(iv) In Order to minimise inconvenience to travelling passengers and to ensure safety of operations during low visibility period, DGCA has issued instructions to all scheduled domestic airlines and airport operators for immediate compliance.